GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:916
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2016
Storage Capacity of FCI Godowns
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Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the storage capacity of FCI godowns is in proportion to production and requirement of storing foodgrains in the country, if so, the details thereof indicating the quantum of foodgrains produced along with open and covered storage capacity available at present;
(b) the total value of foodgrains damaged due to shortage of proper storage facility/storage in open during the last three years;
(c) whether the Shanta Kumar Committee has recommended for phasing out of open storage, if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;
(d) whether the Government has identified godowns that are in a dilapidated condition, require maintenance and have poor facilities for storing foodgrains, if so, the details thereof and corrective steps proposed in this regard;
(e) whether the Government proposes to formulate any incentive policy for constructing godowns on farmers fields on Gujarat pattern, if so, the details thereof along with number of godowns constructed during the last three years; and
(f) whether the Government proposes to distribute the foodgrains lying in the godowns under welfare schemes and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)
(a): Yes, Madam. Sufficient storage capacity exists with Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State agencies for foodgrains procured for central pool. As on 31.01.2016, storage capacity of 359.02 Lakh MT (Covered - 332.91 LMT, Open - 26.11 LMT) is available with FCI and 448.09 lakh MT (Covered − 306.80 LMT, Open − 141.29 LMT) with State agencies, i.e. total 807.11 Lakh MT was available for central pool stocks, against actual stock of 365.74 lakh MT. The Open storage is of Covered & Plinth (CAP) type.
As regard to production of foodgrains and requirement of storage capacity, it is stated that the rice production as per 4th Advance estimates of Ministry of Agriculture was 1047.97 lakh MT for KMS 2014-15, against which 320.40 lakh MT was procured in central pool. Similarly, production of wheat during RMS 2015-16 was 889.37 lakh MT and 280.88 lakh MT was procured in central pool. The maximum storage requirement at any time is around 600 Lakh MT.
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(b): No damage can directly be attributed to lack of proper storage space. Foodgrains are stored in scientific manners in covered godowns and in CAP. Due care is taken to ensure quality of the grains at all times. However, foodgrains being a perishable commodity, some quantities become non-issuable due to various reasons like:
I. Damage due to longer storage.
II. Transit damages viz.enroute damage in wagons/trucks due to contamination, wagon roof leakage etc.
III. Damages due to natural calamities like cyclone/flood.
IV. Possibility of down gradation of grains which are procured under relaxed specifications.
V. In some cases due to negligence of officials/ officers, for which suitable disciplinary action against defaulters, where ever found guilty, is invariably taken.
The quantum of wheat stocks damaged under CAP in FCI during the year 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 (upto 01-02-2016) is as follows:-
Year
Qty. in MT
Value (in Rs.)
2012-13
225.48
1738451
2013-14
579.76
4696056
2014-15
1023.48
8597207
2015-16
2.00
17400
(c): Yes, Madam. The Committee has recommended that Open/CAP storage should be gradually phased out. Accordingly, FCI has de-hired the entire hired CAP capacity except about only 9,249 MT used for storing locally procured paddy. CAP is being kept to the minimum for short-term storage during peak procurement season. Instructions have been issued to all the field offices not to store

stocks in CAP in consuming regions.
(d): FCI formulate a priority list for maintenance related works of godowns and ancillary works like roads, drains, etc. at the beginning of the financial year. Accordingly, the works are taken up on priority. Sufficient funds are also provided in this regard. Besides, periodical inspections are done at various levels to ensure the upkeep and maintenance of godowns.
(e) : No Madam.
(f): In addition to public distribution system, food grains are also allotted/supplied under various welfare schemes as per requirement of the states and union territories. The allotment and offtake of wheat and rice from Central Pool under such welfare schemes during 2012-13 to 2015-16 (upto Jan 2016) are as under:-
(Figs. in Lakh MTs)

Year	Allotment			Offtake		
	Wheat	Rice	Total	Wheat	Rice	Total
2012-13	436.00	366.65	802.65	332.42	326.41	658.83
2013-14	381.58	344.31	725.89	306.14	291.98	598.12
2014-15	341.09	372.86	713.95	271.59	355.69	627.28
2015-16	376.20	341.41	717.61	248.81	270.33	519.14

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